

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 AGRE-00 EB-08 HA-05 L-03
AID-05 IO-13 MMO-01 H-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
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DRAFTED BY EA/K:DBLAKEMORE:JCM
APPROVED BY D:WCHRISTOPHER
USDA - JBULLION
EB/OF - SJOHNSON
HA - MBOVA
L - HHANSELL
-----060614 181633Z /72

O 181618Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EAGR, SHUM, KS, US

SUBJECT: PL 480 AND LONG TERM SUPPLY ARRANGEMENTS

REFS: (A) SEOUL 2643, (B) SEOUL 2033, (C) SEOUL 1074,
(D) STATE 82204, (E) STATE 33855, (F) STATE 27405,
(G) SEOUL 2872.

1. ALTHOUGH TEXT OF DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER NAM'S LETTER
CONTAINED IN REF A DOES NOT USE WORD "CONFIRM" AS
REQUESTED IN YOUR MARCH 24 LETTER, WE BELIEVE IT WILL NOT
RPT NOT BE NECESSARY FOR THE ROKG TO REVISE THE LANGUAGE
OF THAT LETTER. THE NECESSARY CLARIFICATION CAN BE MADE
IN A FURTHER LETTER WHICH YOU SHOULD SEND TO DPM NAM. THE
TEXT OF THAT LETTER SHOULD READ: QUOTE THANK YOU FOR
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YOUR LETTER OF MARCH 29, 1978, WHICH I UNDERSTAND TO BE
THE CONFIRMATION REQUESTED IN MY LETTER OF MARCH 24, 1978.
I AM INFORMING MY GOVERNMENT THAT YOU HAVE PROVIDED SUCH
CONFIRMATION. UNQUOTE. YOUR LETTER MAY BE DELIVERED WITH
AS LITTLE FANFARE AS DESIRED, AND NO RPT NO REPLY FROM
THE ROKG IS REQUIRED.

2. USDA IS IN THE PROCESS OF REVIEWING COTTON FIGURES PROVIDED REF G AND RESPONSE WILL BE PROVIDED SEPTEL. ONCE WE HAVE MADE A DETERMINATION ON THE ROKG'S COMMODITY REQUEST WE WILL PROCEED WITH THE PROCESS OF OBTAINING INTER-AGENCY CLEARANCE OF PL 480 NEGOTIATING INSTRUCTIONS.

3. REF B ASKED FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATING INSTRUCTIONS WITH REGARD TO LONG TERM ARRANGEMENTS. THE INSTRUCTIONS PROVIDED IN REFS E AND F COVER ALL THE POINTS WHICH WE ABLE TO PROVIDE AT THIS TIME. HOWEVER, SOME SPECIFIC CLARIFYING COMMENTS MAY BE HELPFUL.

A. PER PARA 3 OF REF C, IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO BE MORE SPECIFIC AT THIS TIME AS TO THE TERMS AND AMOUNTS OF POST-KENNEDY COMMITMENT PL 480 PROGRAMS. WE WILL HAVE TO MAKE DECISIONS ON SUCH DETAIL ONE YEAR AT A TIME IN THE LIGHT OF BUDGET AND COMMODITY SUPPLY STRICTURES AND OF PREVAILING CONDITIONS BOTH IN KOREA AND IN OTHER PL 480 RECIPIENT NATIONS.

B. WITH REGARD TO THE POSSIBILITY THAT CONGRESS WILL APPROVE MEDIUM TERM CCC CREDITS, AS WAS DISCUSSED IN FEBRUARY DURING AMBASSADOR SNEIDER'S WASHINGTON CONSULTATIONS, SEVERAL BILLS HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED TO PROVIDE ENABLING LEGISLATION. IT IS TOO EARLY TO FORESEE OUTCOME OF ANY OF THESE BILLS, ALTHOUGH SOME LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AGENCIES OPPOSE SUCH LEGISLATION ON THE GROUNDS THAT IT WOULD CONTRIBUTE INTERNATIONALLY TO A GRAIN EXPORT FINANCING WAR.

C. FINALLY, WHILE WE CANNOT AGREE TO WRITTEN LONG TERM FOOD SECURITY SUPPLY ASSURANCES, WE ARE PREPARED TO PUBLICLY ASSURE THE ROKG THAT WE WILL CONSULT WITH THE ROKG SHOULD SUPPLY PROBLEMS ARISE. CHRISTOPHER

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